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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ADVANCED BIONICS CORPORATION [US/US]; 12740 San Fernando Road, Sylmar, CA 91342 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

- (75) Inventors'Applicants (for US only): LOEB, Gerald, E. [US/US]; 19348 Wing Foot Circle, Northridge, CA 91326 (US). MANN, Carla, M. [US/US]; 14175 Mulholland Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210 (US). RICHMOND, Francis, J., R. [CA/US]; 19348 Wing Foot Circle, Northridge, CA 91326 (US).
- (74) Agent: GOLD, Bryant, R., Advanced Bionics Corporation, 12740 San Fernando Road, Sylmar, CA 91342 (US).

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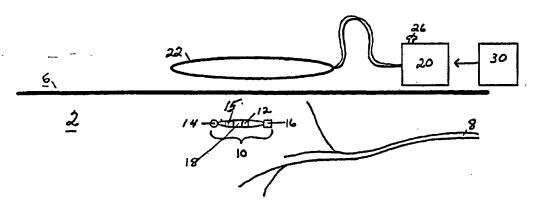
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### PROGRAMMING SYSTEM FOR IMPLANTABLE MICROSTIMULATOR

#### (57) Abstract

A method and system for treatment of urinary incontinence includes the injection or laparoscopic implantation of one or more batteryor radiofrequency-powered microstimulators (10) beneath the skin of the perineum. The devices are programmed using radio-frequency
control via an external controller (20, 30) that can be used by a physician to produce patterns of output stimulation pulses judged to be
efficacious by appropriate clinical testing to diminish incontinence symptoms. The stimulation program is retained in the microstimulator
device (10) or external controller (20) and is transmitted when commanded to start and stop by a signal from the patient or caregiver. The
system and method reduce the incidence of unintentional episodes of bladder emptying by stimulating nerve pathways (8) that diminish
involuntary bladder contractions, improve closure of the bladder outlet, and/or improve the long-term health of the urinary system by
increasing bladder capacity and emptying. Further, the system and method allow a patient to be taught to receive one or more patterns of
neural stimulation that can be prescribed by a physician and administered without continuous oversight by a clinical practitioner.

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Category* Citation of document, with indication, where a	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.							
A US 5,405,367 A (SCHULMAN et document.	al.) 11 April 1995, entire	1-12							
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